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REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application.

Objections and Rejections

The Examiner's Action dated July 31, 2002, Paper no. __:

1. objects to claim numbering appearing in the application as originally filed, and renumbers the claims;
2. rejects renumbered claims 124, 126-128 and 130, -134 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious based upon United States Patent no. 2,792,617 entitled "Process of Heat Setting Thermoplastic Net in Rope Form and Product Produced Thereby" which issued May 21, 1957, on an application filed by John Walter Ecroyd Haller ("the Haller patent"); and
3. and declares renumbered claims 125, 129 and 135-138 to be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

Argument

Applicants respectfully submit that, for the reasons set forth below, claims 124-138 are all allowable over the Haller patent.

The Examiner's Action dated July 31, 2002, states that:

[t]he patent to Haller shows a net . . . with a mesh design having a first right hand cell bar 60 and a second left handed cell bar 59 (Emphasis supplied.)

The Applicants respectfully suggest that a comparison of the cell bars 59 and 60 as illustrated in FIGs. 1-5 of the Haller patent

with the cell bars depicted in FIG. 9e of the present application contradicts the preceding allegation appearing in the Examiner's Action.

FIG. 9e of the present application depicts a pair of cell bars 59a'-59b'. An enlarged annotated and hi-lited copy of FIG. 9e is attached hereto as part of Exhibit A. The text of the present application beginning on page 19 in line 11 describe a segment 59a depicted in FIG. 9e as being left handed and a segment 59b as being right handed. In FIG. 9e, a pair of cell bars 59a'-59b' extend in the direction of an arrow A' in a receding direction from a crossing of the segments 59a-59b. Exhibit A attached hereto also includes an enlarged reproduction of FIG. 1 from the Haller patent that has been reoriented 90° in a clockwise direction from the orientation of FIG. 1 presented on the first page of the reference.

It is immediately apparent upon inspection of pitch lines appearing on cell bar 59 in FIG. 1 from the Haller patent in Exhibit A and pitch lines appearing on cell bar 59b' from the present application that the cell bar 59 of FIG 1 of the Haller patent has the same orientation as the cell bar 59b' of FIG. 9e of the present application. That is, both cell bar 59 in FIG. 1 from the Haller patent and cell bar 59b' from FIG 9e of the present application are both right handed. Conversely, it is also immediately apparent upon inspection of pitch lines appearing on cell bar 60 in FIG. 1 from the Haller patent and pitch lines appearing on cell bar 59a' from the present application that the cell bar 60 of FIG 1 of the Haller patent has an orientation opposite to the cell

bar 59a' of FIG. 9e of the present application. That is, cell bar 59a' of FIG. 9e of the present application is left handed while cell bar 60 of FIG. 1 of the Haller patent is right handed. That is, using the terminology established on page 19 of the present application, cell bar 59 and cell bar 60 depicted in FIG. 1 of the Haller patent are both right handed.

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Conclusion

Since for the reasons set forth above the Haller patent fails to disclose:

a net . . . with a mesh design having a first right hand cell bar 60 and a second left handed cell bar 59

the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 124, 126-128 and 130,-134 traverse rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the Haller patent. Because claims 124, 126-128 and 130,-134 traverse rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the Haller patent, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 124-138 are allowable. For the preceding reasons, the Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of renumbered claims 124-138 presently pending in this application.

Respectfully submitted


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Dated: October 26, 2002

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